

(Under this application, which was originally made under Section 91 of the Patents and Designs Acts, 1907 to 1928, a specification was laid open to public inspection on July, 17, 1929.)

## PATENT SPECIFICATION

315,715



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## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

## Improvements in the Treatment of Smoking Tobaccos.

- (A communication from abroad by GENERAL - DIREKTION DER OESTERR. TABAK REGIE, of 51, Porzellangasse, Vienna IX, in the Republic of Austria, an Austrian Government Department.)
- I, REGINALD EATON ELLIS, of the Firm of Mewburn, Ellis & Company, of 70/72, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2, a British subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—
- This invention relates to the treatment of tobacco and has for its object to provide an improved process of denicotining and flavouring tobaccos.
- Smoking tobaccos such as pipe and cigarette tobaccos have heretofore been treated with aromatisers, that is with solutions comprising various ingredients, and sprinkled with aromatising liquids for the purpose of improving their aroma or of producing a specific flavour in the smoke.
- In cases in which the nicotine content of the tobacco is too large to allow of the same being employed without treatment, said tobacco is first lixiviated with water to reduce the nicotine content and is then aromatised. It has been found, however, that the removal of the nicotine proceeds, in this manner, rather slowly, that the tobacco suffers considerably in its appearance, particularly where a substantial nicotine extraction is desired, and that at the same time several substances are extracted therefrom which while innocuous when smoked are desirable on account of their aroma.
- The present invention consists in eliminating the defects set forth by not lixiviating the tobacco before the aromatising but first de-nicotining by another, more efficacious method than lixiviation and then aromatising with solutions of essential oils not derived from the raw tobacco.
- For the extraction of nicotine use is made, for example of the method of the
- Oesterr. Tabakregie in accordance with Patent Specification No. 290,204.
- This method consists in introducing the tobacco products in an apparatus in a dry state, heating the same as rapidly as possible up to the temperatures at which the nicotine salts will dissociate to a percentage practically sufficient i.e. above 150° C., and maintaining at that temperature until the quantity of nicotine desired will have been extracted and carried away by a current of air, gas or dry steam, which has been preheated to the temperature of the apparatus and is rapidly flowing through.
- If tobaccos which are not particularly strong in nicotine are treated, then according to the method of the invention tobacco goods are obtained which are very weak in nicotine—their nicotine content may already be termed practically innocuous—and which nevertheless have an extremely mild, agreeable and, at the same time, very aromatic flavour.
- EXAMPLE 1.  
PIPE TOBACCO.
- 3 kgs of bright Virginia leaves, 3 kgs of Maryland, 2 kgs of Burley and 1 kg each of Java leaves and Latakia are de-nicotined for a period of 6 hours while still in bunch form in accordance with the nicotine extraction method forming the subject of the Patent No. 290,204, by the Oesterr. Tabakregie and is then steamed for a short time until just softened. If a better quality is wished, the rib or stalk is next removed. After this the stripped leaves are well sprinkled with an alcoholic solution of suitable essential oil, for instance geranium oil.
- The pipe tobacco thus prepared has about 40% only of the original nicotine content of the mixture of raw tobaccos and is characterised by a very mild aroma. Naturally the most varied kinds of smoking tobaccos suited to different tastes may be produced by variation of the kinds and proportions of the raw tobaccos, by making use of, for example, pipe tobaccos

[Price 1/-]

of European origin or of the American kinds.

#### EXAMPLE 2.

#### CIGARETTE TOBACCO.

5 8 kgs of bright Virginia leaves and  
2 kgs of tobacco of oriental origin are  
de-nicotined for about 6 hours according  
to the above mentioned method, are  
steamed a little, stripped, cut, and then  
10 sprinkled with suitable flavouring as  
above described.

In this case also the proportions of the  
tobaccos and flavouring mentioned may,  
of course, be varied and other kinds of  
tobacco be employed. Other suitable sub-  
15 stances, provided they are admissible by  
law, may also be used for aromatizing and  
flavouring after being suitably selected  
and blended. The essential oil mentioned  
20 for the pipe tobaccos, and other essential  
oils, may be used for the preparation of  
the alcoholic solution.

Having now particularly described and  
ascertained the nature of our said inven-  
25 tion and in what manner the same is to  
be performed, we declare that what we  
claim is:—

1. Improved process for the treatment of

tobaccos, characterised hereby, that appro-  
priate tobaccos or tobacco mixtures are  
highly de-nicotined - without being  
lixivated and are then treated with an  
aromatic flavouring not derived from the  
raw tobacco, substantially as described.

2. Process for the treatment of smoking  
tobacco comprising de-nicotining the  
leaves while still in bunch form by a  
treatment dispensing with lixiviation and  
afterwards saturating with an aromatising  
solution not derived from the raw tobacco,  
substantially as described.

3. Process for the treatment of smoking  
tobacco comprising firstly de-nicotining  
the leaves while still in bunch form by a  
treatment dispensing with lixiviation,  
steaming the treated leaves, stripping the  
leaves and spraying them with an aroma-  
tising solution not derived from the raw  
tobacco.

4. The improved process for the treat-  
ment of smoking tobacco substantially as  
described.

Dated this 16th day of July, 1929.

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